

Amendments to the Specification:

On page 104, please replace the paragraph beginning, " Since the NA is required for " with the following paragraph (deletions are indicated by brackets and additions are indicated by underlining):

Since the NA is required for viral infectivity in MDBK cells, transfectant viruses GP2/BIP-NA and HGP2/BIP-NA were able to express the NA protein in infected cells from their bicistronic NA genes. In order to study the expression of the GP2 and HGP2 polypeptides in transfectant virus-infected cells, infected MDCK cells were immunostained using the human monoclonal antibody 2F5. This antibody is specific for the amino acid sequence ELDKWA (SEQ ID NO.: 46) of gp41, which is present in the polypeptides GP2 and HGP2. The results are shown in Fig. 25. Wild-type WSN virus-infected cells did not stain with the gp41 -specific antibody 2F5. In contrast, both GP2/BIP-NA and HGP2/BIP-NA virus-infected cells showed positive staining with the 2F5 antibody. These results indicate that the first cistron (GP2 or HGP2) of the NA RNA segment of these two transfectant viruses is expressed in infected cells.